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21 October 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CIA Historical Staff

SUBJECT : CS Historical Program Progress
Report for the Period 1 July -
30 September 1971

1. Status of the Program.

The number of histories in the CS program has remained fairly constant since the last report: 298 as of 30 June and 297 as of 30 September. Thus far 168 histories have been published, three, totaling over 800 pages, during the past quarter. There are 77 papers in preparation, five in the final stages of editing and typing. Twenty completed or partially completed drafts are being reviewed and edited in the Historical Staff.

2. Writers.

The number of active writers continues to fluctuate from week to week. As of 30 September there were 48 full time and 10 part time writers.

3. Problems.

The published copies of the histories are prepared in our office. Final typing, proofing, correcting and duplicating are exacting and laborious tasks. With our present complement of two typists up to about 300 pages of final copy can be done each month. Some of the histories on hand awaiting final processing run from 1,000 to 1,500 pages. With the number of histories in final stages of preparation we can anticipate keeping the typists busy with 1971 production for several months into 1972. We continue to request and look for additional typing personnel but have thus far not been successful.

4. Some of the histories we receive require complete rewriting rather than editing. In many instances the writer of the paper is no longer available to undertake the revision, and quite often would not be capable of producing an acceptable re-draft. With our present staff we can edit and revise papers only to a certain point. Full scale revisions and rewriting are beyond our capability. We anticipate, therefore, that there will be a few histories to be re-worked in 1972, some of them of considerable length.

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5. Prognosis.

From a review of the papers now in preparation, we estimate that about 35 to 40 will be published or received in publishable form between now and the end of the year. This will leave about 90 from the present program which will need further work or revision, or will not have been started. Some components plan to continue their present staffs of writers until toward the end of FY 1972; others see themselves forced to suspend work on the program in January 1972 because of the increasing difficulty of assigning capable personnel, in fact of assigning any personnel at all.

6. Plans.

The CS Historical Board is examining the probable carry-over from the current historical program to determine whether and what portions should be eliminated in the continuing program. We are also considering other titles and types of papers which would be of present and enduring value. Following these deliberations we will formulate a new list of subjects to be written up as histories. We are also attempting to ascertain more clearly what will be available in the way of contract and staff writers. Only after these factors have been clarified will we be able to formulate a schedule for the continuing CS historical program.



DDP Historical Officer

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Attachments:

- A. Histories Published during Report Period.
- B. Status of CS Histories and Writers by Major Components.
- C. Status of CS Histories.
- D. Total Histories Published or Currently Scheduled.
- E. Remaining Histories to be Published and Ones with no Writers.

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